



**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
OFFICE MEMORANDUM**

DATE: **December 15, 2005**

TO: **Mayor and Members of the City Council**

FROM: **Robert Paternoster, Community Development Director**

THROUGH: **Amy Chan, City Manager** *[Signature]*

RE: **RTC 05-380 1029 Ranere Court: Public E-mails and Letter**

Enclosed are additional e-mails and a letter received from the public that were submitted to the City after the staff report was completed. The responses are in regards to the appeal of the Heritage Preservation Commission's decision to keep the home at 1029 Ranere Court on the City's Heritage Resource Inventory.

If you have any questions, please contact Troy Fujimoto, at (408) 730-7443.

Attachments: A. Public E-mails and Letter

From: Anne Lee
To: Fujimoto, Troy
Date: 12/15/2005 9:23:04 AM
Subject: Fwd: Caviglia Ranch House

Troy:
The 11th... and still counting!

>>> Heidi Kirk 12/15/05 9:10 AM >>>

Forwarding from Council AnswerPoint. -HK

Heidi Kirk
Executive Assistant
Office of the Mayor and City Council
City of Sunnyvale
hkirk@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us
www.ci.sunnyvale.ca.us
PH: (408) 730-7470
FAX: (408) 730-7699*

>>> "reidandtodd" <

> 12/14/2005 9:07:07 PM >>>

Hi,

We live near the Caviglia Ranch House and have enjoyed it's beauty and historical value. We recently learned that the current owner is trying to change the historical status of the house (with intent for destruction, etc. longer term)

We are very concerned and disappointed by the prospect of losing a Heritage Resource in Sunnyvale. There are few signs of the history of Sunnyvale and this house represents a key part of our history.

Please, please preserve one of the few remnants of the historical properties in Sunnyvale. The Heritage Status helps to ensure the preservation of this historic treasure.

Because of child care & work, it's unlikely we can attend the City Council meeting that will review this status. Despite this, please consider strongly our input. We have discussed with others in Sunnyvale and hope you make a decision in favor of preserving our history.

Best Regards,
Reid & Todd Myers

CC: Ryan, Trudi

From:
To: <tfujimoto@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us>
Date: 12/14/2005 11:29:45 PM
Subject: Caviglia ranch home

I would like to express my support for the Heritage Preservation Commission's decision to deny a Resource Alteration Permit for property located at 1029 Ranere Court, the former Caviglia ranch home. The home is a unique architectural landmark in our neighborhood and provides a lasting memorial to Sunnyvale's agricultural past. It is well worth preserving.

Please deny the appeal as well.

--
Roger Smith

From:
To: <tfujimoto@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us>, <council@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us>
Date: 12/13/2005 4:24:12 PM
Subject: Heritage list proposal for Caviglia Ranch House

I have become aware of an attempt to appeal the decision for keeping the Caviglia Ranch House (1029 Ranere Court) on the Heritage List. I wish to offer my opinion that I strongly oppose the appeal.

Over the years, Sunnyvale has retained precious little of its history. As residents of Sunnyvale, we have become aware of that problem and are working hard to retain what heritage we have. In addition, the city is embarking on a major effort to rebuild a part of downtown Sunnyvale. These efforts to keep our heritage are to be applauded and encouraged.

If, on the other hand, we let wonderful examples of our past, such as the Caviglia Ranch House, disappear then our heritage is lost forever. At that point, why even have a Heritage Preservation Commission?

Please do not let the Caviglia Ranch House come off of the heritage list. Also, please let me know any way that I can help the appeal be denied.

Sincerely,

John McGwire

From:
To: <council@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us>
Date: 12/13/2005 11:00:29 AM
Subject: Caviglia Ranch Home – Ranere Court

Dear Council Members,
I am a resident of _____, facing the
cottage of Caviglia Ranch Home on Ranere Court.

Me and my husband have been residents of Sunnyvale for
the past 12 years, ever since we moved to the valley
and we love Sunnyvale for it's quaint downtown and
more so for it's strong safe community.

One of the reasons, we opted to buy our home in Prune
Court is for the lovely neighbourhoods, offering
beautiful older homes built around beautiful trees.

The CAVIGLIA home is a HERITAGE SYMBOL of our entire
neighbourhood and it gives us much pleasure to look
out of our home into the beautiful mediterranean villa
with gorgeous trees surrounding it.

The CAVIGLIA home brings in added VALUE and PRIDE not
only to our neighbourhood but the entire city of
Sunnyvale, considering the fact that there is very
little historical buildings remaining.

Hence, we would like for the City council and staff to
consider PRESERVING this wonderful HOME and preventing
CONSTRUCTION of high density homes that will destroy
the image of our neighbourhood and the city.

Regards
Krishna

Krishna Sudhakaran
President/Vice-President of Regulatory Affairs/QA Compliance
Med-Surgical Services Inc. DBA CBYON

Sunnyvale CA 94086

CC: <tfujimoto@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us>, <cmoylan@stanford.edu>

From:

To: Council and Mayor <council@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us>, Tony Spitaleri <counciltonyspitaleri@yahoo.com>, Chris Moylan <cmoylan@stanford.edu>, Dean Chu <CouncilDeanChu@yahoo.com>, Melinda Hamilton <council@melinda.org>, John Howe <jh2@aol.com>, Otto Lee <otto@ottolee.org>

Date: 12/12/2005 7:59:38 PM

Subject: Heritage Designation, Caviglia Ranch Home ?C 1029 Ranere Court

Mayor, Council Members,

I am writing in regard to the home at 1029 Ranere Court (APN:201-03-041). An application is pending on your 20 Dec 2005 agenda (file 2005-0799) appealing the SUNNYVALE HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION affirmation that the home has historical significance. PLEASE MAINTAIN THIS HOME AS A SUNNYVALE HERITAGE PROPERTY.

I have been a resident of Sunnyvale since 1980 and have lived in my current residence since 1997. As a long-time resident I was dismayed that the historic downtown was bulldozed and replaced by the mall which is now being bulldozed to put up an analogue of a historic downtown, and that the historic Murphy house was torn down and is now being replaced by a replica. This is not the way to preserve our heritage.

The Historical and Architectural Evaluation on 1029 Ranere Court prepared by Archives & Architecture Heritage Resource Partners (attachment A in file #2005-0799) contains the following statements:

Σ "The historical materials and features have been changed very little over time and continue to represent the buildings architectural design as per the National Register's seven principles of integrity.

Σ The resource maintains its historical integrity of association with the original owner and use as a generously sized residence of the 1930s.

Σ The exterior of the building provides an essentially unadulterated representation of its original residential scale, style, and feeling, Spanish-eclectic design, materials, and workmanship.

Σ The house maintains its integrity of location and the property includes mature plantings that preserve some of the immediate setting....

Σ The character-defining features provide an adequate framework for understanding the original building on its site."

{section 3.0 Property Description, page 10}

Sunnyvale has precious few heritage buildings that maintain this level of historic integrity.

The property and its setting reflect the agricultural heritage of our Valley of Heart's Delight. If it is altered or torn down, another piece of our common heritage will be irretrievably lost and the community will be the poorer for it.

Please keep the 1029 Ranere Court property on the Heritage Register.

Mike Skidmore

CC: Planning Commission <planning@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us>, Troy Fujimoto-Planning Officer

From:

To: Council and Mayor <council@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us>, Tony Spitaleri <counciltonyspitaleri@yahoo.com>, Chris Moylan <cmoylan@stanford.edu>, Dean Chu <CouncilDeanChu@yahoo.com>, Melinda Hamilton <council@melinda.org>, John Howe <jh2@aol.com>, Otto Lee <otto@ottolee.org>

Date: 12/15/2005 12:52:29 PM

Subject: Heritage Designation, Caviglia Ranch Home - 1029 Ranere Court (file 2005-0799)

Mayor, Council Members,

I have written previously in regard to the home at 1029 Ranere Court (APN:201-03-041). An application is pending on your 20 Dec 2005 agenda (file 2005-0799) appealing the SUNNYVALE HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION affirmation that the home has historical significance.

As I have reviewed the records in further detail I noted another significant statement in the Historical and Architectural Evaluation on 1029 Ranere Court;

"The house would appear to qualify for both the National register under Criterion C and California Register under Criterion (3) based upon its distinctive architectural design, a distinguished example of Depression era residential architecture that was specifically adapted to a rural agricultural setting. Although the ranch no longer exists, the house as a distinct entity retains enough of its yard to retain the historic setting."
{section 4.5 , page 15}

I also take note of the staff recommendation in the CITY OF SUNNYVALE REPORT, Heritage Preservation Commission, October 5, 2005. In the Conclusion (page 7) that "Staff recommends that demolition of the accessory structure can occur as well as subdivision of the property, leaving the primary single family home."

I take exception to this position. I feel strongly that the entire property is important to the "integrity of location" and "historic setting" that are critical for an historical structure. The accessory building on the rear of the property contains the garage for the main residence. If the accessory building torn down and replaced with a new single-family residence then the need will arise to construct a new garage for the main residence. Given the layout of the property; a new garage structure will inherently impact the integrity of this historic site. This will amount to a piecemeal degradation of the historic value and may achieve "through the back door" a de facto loss of the historic integrity and possibly, eventual removal from the Historical Resource list.

PLEASE MAINTAIN THIS HOME AS A SUNNYVALE HERITAGE PROPERTY.

In closing I ask that this matter be scheduled as early as possible on the City Council meeting agenda. By our current count there are 30+ neighbors who will be attending the meeting to support the preservation of the Caviglia Ranch Home. As many of these neighbors are elderly it may pose a significant hardship on them if this matter is addressed later in the evening.

Thank you for your consideration of this issue.

Mike Skidmore

From: [REDACTED]
To: <tfujimoto@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us>
Date: 12/10/2005 8:53:33 PM
Subject: file number 2005-0799

The preservation of a house located at 1029 Ranere Court should remain as a historical landmark for the purpose of our future generation to enjoy, appreciate and remember our past. Today, the chronological growth and transformation of Sunnyvale from orchards and farmlands into one of the present and modern day center of the silicon valley metropolis have a tremendous influence in the growth of the Santa Clara Valley and the State of California.

Had it not been the hard sweats and toil of our past resident this community may never be remembered. Our old homes, residents and industrial structures play a very important role to attract and promote curious visitors to Sunnyvale to imagine, and remember the origin of this community.

The old water tank at the old Libby cannery site does not draw a true picture of even an existence of a canning operation occurring in Sunnyvale. A structural foundation creates a more vivid picture of our past. The destruction of this home would be a repeat of the Libby Cannery with little or no emotional or intrinsic importance in the mind of a visitor.

Other historical residences in Sunnyvale areas have been left standing and newer residences built behind or around the historical dwellings so, why could this not be the case again for our future generation to enjoy and be proud of their heritage.

A residence purchased or obtained through other means should not always be torn down for the purpose of financial gains or benefits alone. George Washighton and all the other people's homes were not torn down for profits. We do not have that many historical sites in this community so, we should take a hard look into these parameters and our priorities before we make our decisions.

Herb andb Yoshiko Morioka
Sunnyvale resident

From:

To: <tfujimoto@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us>, <CouncilDeanChu@yahoo.com>, <council@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us>, <fred@fmfa.com>, <otto@ottolee.org>, <planning@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us>, <council@melinda.org>, <jh2@aol.com>

Date: 12/10/2005 9:39:34 AM

Subject: 1029 Ranere Ct.

To Whom it may concern,

I am writing to you over my concern for the removal of 1029 Ranere Ct., Sunnyvale, off of the Heritage List.

This was the home of my grandparents, Jim and Jennie Caviglia. My mother was raised in this house and a lot of great memories were created here. I can remember as a little girl going over there and visiting with my grandparents, my grandmother always had something wonderful cooking on the stove. I also remember the cherry orchards that surrounded the property. There are so many new homes going up everywhere that it would be terrible to see such a special house replaced. That home was fuelled by wood, there are radiators where the heat came out of. There just aren't any houses around that were built like this one.

I hope you will all think long and hard about removing it from the Heritage List, as it would never be able to be replaced. We need to keep parts of the past so children in the future will know what it was like.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this matter.

Monica Freeborn Martin

Grandaughter of Jennie Caviglia

From: >
To: <Tfujimoto@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us>
Date: 12/9/2005 4:00:36 PM
Subject: heritage property

dear mr. fjimoto,
i would like to express my outrage at the idea that the property owner at 1029 ranere ct. is asking the city council to take off the historical significance of this property! ii grew up in palo alto and came to sunnyvale when it was just an agricultural community with orchards all over. i would hate to see the council reverse this historical significance for real estate greed. i will be at the dec. 20th council meeting to see how members of the council vote on this.

sincerely, jan and gary nauman

sunnyvale

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<http://mail.yahoo.com>

From: Anne Lee
To: Fujimoto, Troy
Date: 12/9/2005 3:49:46 PM
Subject: Fwd: Caviglia Ranch Home (2005-0799)

>>> Heidi Kirk 12/09/05 3:43 PM >>>

Forwarding from Council AnswerPoint. -HK

Heidi Kirk
Executive Assistant
Office of the Mayor and City Council
City of Sunnyvale
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PH: (408) 730-7470
FAX: (408) 730-7699

>>> > 12/9/2005 2:29:25 PM >>>

December 7, 2005

City of Sunnyvale
456 W. Olive Ave
Sunnyvale, CA

RE: Caviglia Ranch Home

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Catherine (Caviglia) Fumia and I am the first born daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Caviglia. I am writing to you today with the hope you will consider maintaining the current status of my family home on the Sunnyvale Heritage Resource Inventory.

I was born on this property in 1921 and spent the first 21 years of my life there not to mention the next 56 years visiting my parents and family who lived there. The ranch home holds an enormous amount of significance in my life as well in the lives of my four children, fifteen grandchildren, and twelve great-grandchildren. This significance could also be extended to the surrounding community and the City of Sunnyvale. My family home was built on the hard work and determination of my parents and family. It is a testament to the importance of immigrants and their value in the development of the economy of Sunnyvale.

If we as a society "demolish" our past, future generations will be unable to learn from it.

Thank you for your consideration of the significance this home and property holds.

Respectfully:

Catherine R. Fumia

From:

To: <council@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us>, <planning@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us>,
<tfujimoto@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us>, <counciltonyspitaleri@yahoo.com>, <cmoylan@stanford.edu>,
<CouncilDeanChu@yahoo.com>, <council@melinda.org>, <fred@fmfa.com>, <jh2@aol.com>,
<otto@ottolee.org>

Date: 12/8/2005 7:38:26 PM

Subject: 1029 Ranere Court: Caviglia Ranch House

I am Nancy Skidmore and I live at _____ t, in the "little"
house Jennie and James Caviglia built during their retirement years.

I have a long history in Sunnyvale. My father lived on the DeRigo
property that is now Sunnyvale Middle School. I grew up on Fremont
Avenue. I went to Nimitz School. I cut apricots for Ivan Jurevich. On
hot summer days, I waded through the cool water in Steve Vidovich's
irrigation ditches. I watched jack rabbits run through the orchard
across the street. I saw the orchards come down and houses go up. I made
friends with kids in those houses. I've since worked with their dads and
moms at Lockheed. I saw our quaint downtown get torn down and replaced
by the Town Center Mall. I'm now watching as our Town Center Mall gets
torn down to be replaced by a more quaint downtown.

Why would Sunnyvale want to remove The Caviglia Ranch House, a historic
structure nestled in the middle of one of its nicer neighborhoods, from
the Heritage Preservation List when the city is in the very process of
attempting to recreate and revitalize the historic feel of its downtown?

If the Caviglia Ranch House is removed from the Heritage Preservation
Commission List, there will be no protection for the structure, and the
owners could tear it down. Please don't let this happen. Please save the
Caviglia Ranch House from destruction. Please save this icon of
Sunnyvale's agricultural history. Please keep the Caviglia Ranch House
on the Sunnyvale Heritage Preservation Commission List.

If you have any doubts about the value of this property to the City of
Sunnyvale and its history, please go see it. One look and you'll be
convinced its worth saving.

N a n c y S k i d m o r e
Publications & Services,

From:

To: <council@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us>, <counciltonyspiteri@yahoo.com>, <cmoylan@stanford.edu>, <councilDeanChu@yahoo.com>, <council@melinda.org>, <fred@fmfa.com>, <jh2@aol.com>, <otto@ottolee.org>, <planning@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us>, <tfujimoto@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us>

Date: 12/9/2005 12:43:38 AM

Subject: file number 205-0799

I am writing in reference to file #205-0799. I feel that this home & all other homes that are a historic remembrance of the city of Sunnyvale should be protected in their original design and or restored to the original design.

Destroying or modernizing a historic building should be a crime. When the people bought this historic home they knew that it was on the historic preservation list for Sunnyvale.

On a recent trip to my home town, I visited some homes that had been restored to the original design by the Heritage Preservation Commission. It was certainly a treat and will be remembered forever.

It would be a wonderful thing for Sunnyvale to maintain its history forever and not give in to peoples personal gain.

Thank you

Robert Hanel

From:
To: <council@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us>, <tfujimoto@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us>
Date: 12/8/2005 10:26:15 AM
Subject: Caviglia Ranch house on Ranere Ct.

To the Mayor and all Council Members:

I am writing over concern that the house at 1029 Ranere Ct. might be taken off the Heritage Preservation list. I am the granddaughter of the original owners Jennie and James Caviglia. This house has a significant historical background in relation to the city of Sunnyvale and its agricultural history. In an area where we have few historical buildings I am asking that you keep this home on the Heritage Preservation list. Thank you for your consideration!

Jeanne Hanley

From: [REDACTED]
To: <tfujimoto@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us>
Date: 12/7/2005 9:27:07 PM
Subject: heritage status Caviglia Ranch House

Dear Planning Officer Fujimoto,

I want to write to you about an issue on the 12/20 city council agenda: the heritage status of the Caviglia Ranch House at 1029 Ranier Court. I have lived around the corner for nearly 20 years. We considered many factors when we bought our house, but next to the school district, the biggest factor was the neighborhood.

We were very pleased to learn at the time that the "big house," as we came to know it, was a heritage house, and we thought that was permanent. If the current owner does not value its status, I would prefer they find another owner who takes pride in being part of Sunnyvale history. It was a heritage house when purchased and certainly this was disclosed at the time; the owners even told the Caviglia descendants they would be caretakers of the city's history when they bought the house. Many of us are sorry that old buildings in downtown Sunnyvale were torn down. Let's protect the historic sites we still have.

My father was born in San Jose in 1909 and picked fruit here every summer. Mrs. Caviglia and her house reminded me of my dad and my family's history in this valley. I used aerial photos of the house to teach my kids about the history of our neighborhood. If you represent us, please do not do anything to alter the heritage status of the Caviglia Ranch House.

Linda Conti
Bill Conti

From:
To: <tfujimoto@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us>
Date: 12/6/2005 9:05:34 AM
Subject: 1029 Ranere Court

Mr. Troy Fujimoto.

I am emailing you with my concerns about removing the Caviglia Estate Home from the Heritage list. To do so would be a travesty of justice. This lovely home has been a landmark in Sunnyvale, in our neighborhood and our court for many years. To remove it from the list would allow it to be razed and other buildings erected. I hope that all concerned with this project will look long and hard before any decisions are made. I thank you for your consideration.

Respectively, Robert Freeborn Sr.

From: [REDACTED]
To: <tfujimoto@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us>
Date: 12/5/2005 7:23:47 PM
Subject: 1029 Ranere Ct.

Dear Troy,

I am the daughter of Jennie and James Caviglia, the original owners of 1029 Ranere Ct. I

I feel very strongly that the house should remain on the heritage list. The house is 71 years old and has an abundance of historical value. It is a beautiful home and certainly well built.

It is a landmark in our neighborhood and also the community. There are so few heritage homes left in Sunnyvale. I think it is time that we start saving some of our past before we lose all of it.

Sincerely,
Maxine Freeborn

From:
To: <planning@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us>
Date: 12/5/2005 2:13:42 PM
Subject: Caviglia Ranch Home on Ranere Court

Dear Planning Commission -

I understand the current owners of the Caviglia Ranch Home on Ranere Court are looking to destroy it and put 4 homes on the property! What an atrocity that would be to Sunnyvale's history, let alone the neighborhood! I was born and raised in Sunnyvale and always admired the city for its sensitivity to preserving history. The Caviglia Ranch is a landmark filled with history of Sunnyvale past.

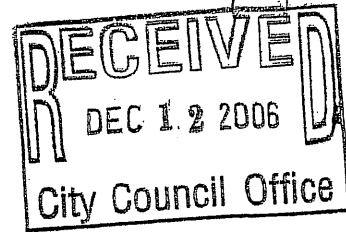
Please SAVE this home, history and neighborhood !

Thank you!

Diane Doolittle
Director, Product Management Operations
Network Appliance, Inc

<file:///C:/Documents%20and%20Settings/dianed/Desktop/NetApp_Tagline.bmp
>

cc: B. Paternoster
(Roy Fujimoto)



8 December 2005

Sunnyvale City Hall
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, California 94086

Attention: Mayor Ron Swegles

Re: Caviglia Ranch

Dear Ron,

Having lived on Prune Court since 1964 I feel it would be a significant lose to the community and city of Sunnyvale should this beautiful historical and the surrounding property with the huge beautiful oak and avocado trees in front and back be destroyed or altered in any way.

The architectural design is quite unique and adds much to its historical character. Please keep this in the Heritage Preservation. The Caviglia's always kept it and the surrounding setting in A-1 condition.

Let's preserve a little history. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Alta F. Rau".

Alta F. Rau

Sunnyvale, California 94087-1826